



**Arc of Katy
Annual Membership Meeting
Parkway Fellowship
5819 Tenth Street
Katy, TX 77493
Tuesday, September 10, 2019
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Fred Shafer, President.

Fred Shafer, President, introduced, Jennifer Martinez, CEO of The Arc of Texas, Kyle Piccola, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy for The Arc of Texas, City of Katy Mayor Bill Hastings, State Representative Gina Calanni, Paula Gibson, Fort Bend District Director for State Senator Lois Kolkhorst, and Katy Independent School District educators.

The Arc of Katy program Participants Billy Schuten, Nathan Dufour, Aryn Simone, and Keith Butler greeted and offered refreshments to guests as they arrived at the meeting. Brandon Todd helped open the meeting and Susan Bode offered an invocation. Fred Shafer, President recognized the Participants and Participant Ben Palen, Board of Directors, and staff of the Arc of Katy.

Presentations by The Arc of Texas:

Jennifer Martinez, CEO for The Arc of Texas spoke about the role of The Arc of Texas in supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Jennifer shared information on The Arc of Texas' mission and vision, public policy, advocacy, resources, educating legislators, training advocates, and providing fun and supportive ways for people to be involved and make a difference.

Ms. Martinez reported on The Arc of Texas 2019 legislative session annual review:

- Hosted 21 community meetings and trainings on relevant policy issues, story sharing, and advocacy
- Trained more than 475 members of the community
- Tracked over 220 bills across 5 major categories – Criminal Justice, Education, Employment, Voting, and Long-Term Services
- In partnership with members testified on over 30 bills

- Collaborated to host a Legislative breakfast where more than 100 legislators and legislative staff joined to learn about issues that affect people with IDD
- Promoted 14,644 email actions to legislators
- 8 of 13 priority bills passed
- 5 major budget victories

Kyle Piccola, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy with The Arc of Texas, presented an overview of the 2019 Legislative Session. He shared information on the following bills that were passed.

HB 4531 (Rep. Neave & Sen. Zaffirini) ensures individuals with IDD have a way to seek justice through evidence collection and sexual assault services after surviving a sexual assault, and provides clarity and direction to examiners and timely forensic services.

HB 3116 (Rep. White and Sen. West) directs the Texas Commission on Jail Standards to create a task force to develop standards and best practices for jails to support the unique needs of people with IDD. The task force will provide suggestions on how jails can implement the standards.

HB 753 (Sen. Huffman & Rep. Raney) transitions the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program away from paying individuals with IDD less than the federal minimum wage. Improves employment outcomes for Texans with IDD by matching an individual’s goals with their skills.

HB 3540 (Rep. Burns & Sen. Hughes) provides flexibility for peace officers when called to an HCS group home or an intermediate care facility (ICF) to ensure the residents with IDD are not wrongfully arrested for minor altercations with housemates.

SB 22038 (Sen. Rodriguez & Rep. Fierro) increases occupational skill training opportunities for people with IDD by identifying potential funding and outlining specific occupations in high-demand industries in this state for which a postsecondary certification, occupational license, or other workforce credential is required and that may be appropriate for individuals with IDD.

HB 4533 (Rep. Klick & Sen. Kolkhorst) requires the development and implementation of a pilot to test the delivery of LTSS under managed care for individuals with IDD and similar functional needs.

HB 3630 & SB 712 (Rep. Meyer & Sen. Lucio) prohibits dangerous discipline and behavior management techniques known as “aversive techniques” from being used on students, specifically students with disabilities.

Hopefully, the five bills that did not pass will be considered next session.

\$219.6 million appropriated to cover past state shortfalls in special education funding and an increase in mainstream funding weight from 1.1 to 1.15

HHSC's was partially funded at \$48 million for Early Childhood Intervention

SB 500 provided \$50 million to help school districts address the under identification of students with disabilities.

Fred Shafer, President, thanked the presenters who were presented crosses painted by The Arc of Katy Participants and shared that The Arc of Katy will continue to support The Arc of Texas.

Mike Lattal presented the 2019-2020 annual budget that was approved by the Board of Directors. Mr. Lattal reported that The Arc of Katy met budget for the 2019 fiscal year.

Fred Shafer, President present highlights and accomplishments of The Arc of Katy for the past year. Mr. Shafer recognized Board of Directors, Day Program Staff, and Parents for their work and support of The Arc of Katy

- Board Development and Strategic Planning was initiated.
- A Comprehensive Financial Plan resulting in a balanced budget that included a formal budget development process, hiring a bookkeeping service, and payroll management system.
- A clean 2018-2019 audit report
- The Marketing & Communications committee developed a plan of action.
- The Arc of Katy was awarded a Google Ad Grants to support the marketing of the organization's activities
- The Day Program served 52 participants
- The Be Strong Program continues to provide activities to promote the health and well-being of Participants
- Monthly socials included dances, bingo/pizza, Prom night, and movie nights.
- Empowerment Through Knowledge provided 3 training sessions.
- Liz Mason, Board member began the Creative Arts and Crafts program
- The Arc of Katy Cares was developed to give back to the community by visiting nursing homes, the Ballard house, decorating bags for kid's meals, and dressing teddy bears for the Teddy Bear Cop program
- Fundraising events: Giving Tuesday Katy, Barn Dance, Cinco Ranch High School FBLA Color Run, Pick-a-Dilly Arts/Craft show, The Arc of Katy Hometown Hero Gala, Katy Gym/Katy Ninja Family Night, Willies Grill & Icehouse Dine & Donate, Hungry Howie's Pizza Dine and Donate
- Margaret Laney, Fran Dahl, and Cherie Duddridge chaired the 2018 Gala. Three hundred attended the Gala and \$80,000 was raised. The funds raised helped purchase a 4th bus.

- Moving forward:
 - Search new opportunities for growth
 - Develop new community partnerships
 - Identify new funding sources
 - Board Development
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Marketing & Communication

Seventeen of the nineteen Board Members were present. There were approximately 52 people in attendance.

Don Elder made a motion, seconded by Mike Lattal that we accept the September 11, 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mike Lattal made a motion that Amy Campbell and Ellen Candito be elected for another 3 year term to the Board of Directors. Ida Faye Elder seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Margaret Laney made a motion to approve the Amended Articles of Incorporation. The motion was seconded by Marchelle Peters. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Fred Shafer, President thanked everyone for their support given to The Arc of Katy.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bode
Secretary
The Arc of Katy